

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 04959 070851Z

14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01 /046 W

----- 030538

R 070803Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1628

INFO AMCONSUL BRISBANE

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL PERTH

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, AS

SUBJ: DISTRIBUTION OF AMERICAN FILMS IN AUSTRALIA

REF: A) STATE 154211; B) CANBERRA 4406; C) SYDNEY 1918

FOR BARGER, EA

1. MPAA DELEGATION DID NOT CONTACT EMBASSY OR CONGEN SYDNEY FOLLOWING AUGUST 13 SYDNEY BRIEFING REPORTED REFTEL C. EMBASSY ASSUMES DELEGATION, WHICH WAS THEN SCHEDULED TO RETURN U.S. AGUSUT 28, HAS LEFT AUSTRALIA.

2. MEANWHILE THE STORY OF TARIFF BOARD REPORT, AMERICAN INDUSTRY ATTITUDE AND BRIEF ALLUSION TO VISIT OF MPAA DELEGATION HAS SURFACED THIS WEEK IN AUSTRALIAN PRESS. PRESS REPORTS SINGLE OUT RECOMMENDATION FOR AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT FILM BUYING POOL, STATED TO BE IN TARIFF BOARD REPORT AND ALSO STATE BOARD'S RECOMMENDATIONS WILL COME BEFORE CABINET MONDYA, SEPTEMBER 10. PRESS ALSO MENTIONS U.S. INDUSTRY POLICY AGAINST DEALING WITH CENTRALIZED PURCHASING AGENCIES AND STATES U.S. INDUSTRY HAS ADDRESSED LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER SAYING INDUSTRY IS PREPARED TO BAN DISTRI-

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BUTION OF U.S. FILMS AND TELEVISION SHOWS IN AUSTRALIA

IF TARIFF BOARD PROPOSAL ADOPTED.

3. PRESS TREATMENT TO DATE LARGELY FACTUAL, BASED ON ALLEGED LEAKS OF LETTER AND PORTIONS OF TARIFF BOARD REPORT. BEYOND THAT PRESS TREATMENT EMPHASIZES PROBLEMS WHICH WOULD FACE AUSTRALIAN THEATRE AND TELEVISION INDUSTRY IF AMERICAN MATERIAL CUT OFF. ONE STATEMENT IS THAT 70 PERCENT OF EXISTING AUSTRALIAN THEATRES WOULD BE FORCED TO CLOSE. FEDERAL MINISTER FOR MEDIA, SENATOR MCCLELLAND, REPORTED PREPARED TO OPPOSE RECOMMENDATION FOR BUYING POOL. TO DATE EMBASSY IS NOT AWARE OF ANY PUBLIC REFERENCES TO THE SUBJECT BY MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT.

4. IN VIEW ORIGINAL APPROACH IN WASHINGTON BY MPAA, REFTEL A, YOU MAY WISH CONTACT ASSOCIATION AND OBTAIN UPDATED BRIEFING ON STATUS THEIR EFFORTS.
GREEN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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